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**MARINE ATTACK SQUADRON 214  
COMMANDING OFFICER'S POLICY STATEMENT ON  
FAMILY READINESS**

Marine Attack Squadron 214 mission readiness will begin with Family Readiness. This is not a buzz phrase or accidental condition; it will be a priority for this squadron. No action will be undertaken without consideration of the effects to family readiness. I encourage each Marine, sailor, and family member to seek ways to become an active participant in the Blacksheep Family Readiness Program.

The Commandant of the Marine Corps stated, "Marines take care of their own- period. This enduring pledge between Marines is never more sacred than during time of war. Just as every Marine makes a commitment to the Corps when they earn the title Marine, the Corps makes an enduring commitment to every Marine- and an enduring commitment to their families".

Family readiness and combat readiness go hand in hand. If we do not take care of our most precious assets – our Marines, sailors, and their families, we will not be ready when called. Furthermore, for the long term success of the Marine Corps, we begin retention of Marines by first retaining their families. The key to this accomplishment is an active and successful Family Readiness program. The VMA-214 Family Readiness program will be one of the primary drivers of the Blacksheep esprit de corps.

I am committed to maintaining active, responsive, and effective family readiness programs. This is my enduring pledge to the Blacksheep Family.

Semper Fidelis,  
Troy M. Pehrson  
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps  
Commanding Officer, Marine Attack Squadron 214